

CLAIMS

1. A stent delivery system comprising:
catheter;
balloon operably attached to the catheter; and
stent disposed on the balloon;
coating disposed on the stent, the coating applied to a preliminary
stent comprising a permanent portion and a detachable portion while retaining
the preliminary stent by the detachable portion, the stent formed from the
permanent portion by removing the detachable portion.
2. The stent delivery system of claim 1 wherein the coating includes a
therapeutic agent.
3. The stent delivery system of claim 1 wherein the coating is a
polymer.
4. A coated stent comprising:
stent;
a coating disposed on the stent, the coating applied to a
preliminary stent comprising a permanent portion and a detachable portion while
retaining the preliminary stent by the detachable portion, the stent formed from
the permanent portion by removing the detachable portion.

5. The coated stent of claim 4 wherein the coating includes a therapeutic agent.

6. The coated stent of claim 4 wherein the coating is a polymer

7. A method for producing a stent comprising:
providing a preliminary stent comprising a permanent portion and a detachable portion;
retaining the preliminary stent by the detachable portion;
applying a coating to the preliminary stent; and
detaching the detachable portion from the permanent portion.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising finishing the end of the permanent portion which was detached from the permanent portion.

9. The method of claim 7 further comprising drying the coating.

10. The method of claim 7 wherein detaching the detachable portion from the permanent portion further comprises detaching the detachable portion from the permanent portion by laser cutting.

11. The method of claim 7 wherein detaching the detachable portion from the permanent portion further comprises detaching the detachable portion from the permanent portion by mechanical cutting.

12. The method of claim 7 wherein applying a coating to the preliminary stent further comprises spraying a coating on the preliminary stent.

13. The method of claim 7 wherein applying a coating to the preliminary stent further comprises dipping the preliminary stent to form a coating.

14. The method of claim 7 wherein the detachable portion further comprises a first detachable portion and a second detachable portion; and
retaining the preliminary stent by the detachable portion further comprises retaining the preliminary stent by the first detachable portion and the second detachable portion.

15. The method of claim 7 wherein the coating includes a therapeutic agent.

16. The method of claim 7 wherein the coating is a polymer.

17. A system for producing a stent comprising:
means for providing a preliminary stent comprising a permanent portion and a detachable portion;
means for retaining the preliminary stent by the detachable portion;
means for applying a coating to the preliminary stent; and
means for detaching the detachable portion from the permanent portion.

18. The system of claim 17 further comprising means for finishing the end of the permanent portion which was detached from the permanent portion.

19. The system of claim 17 further comprising means for drying the coating.

20. The system of claim 17 wherein the detachable portion further comprises a first detachable portion and a second detachable portion; and
means for retaining the preliminary stent by the detachable portion
further comprises means for retaining the preliminary stent by the first
detachable portion and the second detachable portion.